REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

Claims 4-23 were previously pending and under consideration.

Claim 24 has been added.

Therefore, claims 4-24 are now pending and under consideration.

Claims 4-23 stand rejected.

Claims 4-14 are amended herein.

No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Interview of April 20, 2006. At the Interview Applicant discussed the invention including features related to a schema-based network service. In particular, Applicant discussed how the cited prior art does not include or reference a schema in a result returned from a service, as well as the prior art's lack of scoping a result according to a role of a requester. The Examiner tentatively agreed that the amendments herein clarify these distinctions and, pending further consideration, the current rejections would likely be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC § 103

Claims 4-23 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103 as obvious over Slaughter in view of Lange. For reasons presented below, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Type of Response: Preliminary Amendment
Application Number: 10/021,264
Attorney Docket Number: 188911.01
Filing Date: 10/22/01

8/12

Schema-based service

Amended claim 4 recites a "schema-based service for identity-based access to calendar data". To this end, claim 4 recites a request and a returned document that both conform to "a markup language schema that defines how requests to the service are structured". Although Slaughter mentions a schema, it's schema is not used to both structure requests and response documents. Furthermore, Slaughter, the only reference cited for the service and schema features of claim 4, does not "include[e] or referenc[e] a defined schema for calendar data" with a returned calendar document. Rather, in Slaughter, a search result is returned to a client (either in the form of a reference to a store result or as a copy of a result), and related schema is stored separately and is not returned/referenced with the search result that is sent to the client (see Figures 44a-44f).

Amended claim 12 recites a first service process that "construct[s] a calendar document ... and include[es] with the calendar document a copy of or a reference to a defined schema for calendar data, the defined schema operable to be interpreted by the service running on the [requesting] device, where the calendar data in the calendar document is structured with markup language that conforms to the defined schema for calendar data". Claim 14 recites "returning a calendar document to the device, the calendar document including the filtered calendar data, and including with the calendar document a reference to or copy of a schema associated with the service, where the filtered calendar data is structured with markup language that conforms to the schema".

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4, 12, and 14 is respectfully requested.

Filtering Of Data Based On Role

Amended claims 4, 12, and 14 recite "filtering the calendar data based on a type of role of the calendar data's requester, whereby the amount of calendar data to be returned varies according to a role of the requester". For example, some roles might

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Application Number: 10/021,264
Attorney Docket Number: 188911.01
Filing Date: 10/22/01

9/12

allow greater levels of access to calendar data than other roles. Or, some types of requester devices (roles) might have different display or storage capacity and therefore might receive more or less data than others. The prior art does not discuss or suggest this feature.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4, 12, and 14 is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM

Newly added claim 24 recites requests with content that "comprises markup language that structures the request content such that it conforms with a schema that defines the service". For requested calendar data, claim 24 recites "determining portions of the calendar data to return to the calendar data's requester based on a type of role of the calendar data's requester, whereby an amount of calendar data to be returned to a requester varies according to a role of the requester". Finally, a returned response comprises "its requester's determined calendar data and markup language that structures the calendar data such that it conforms with the schema that defines the service". The cited prior art does not discuss or suggest these features.

SUPPORT FOR CLAIM AMENDMENTS

For support for the role/filtering features, see at least pages 24-27, discussing role templates and showing tables with different levels of data access for different roles. See also page 15 (lines 8-18). For support for schema-based features, see at least page 11 (lines 5-8); page 13 (lines 5-8); page 18 (line 16); page 16, lines 11-18); and page 23 (lines 3-6).

DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The dependent claims are deemed to be patentable based on their dependence from allowable independent claims. The dependent claims are also independently patentable for the features recited therein. For example, claim 10 recites a schema "element [that] comprises data corresponding to a calendar item notification setting". The cited prior art does not discuss or suggest this feature. Withdrawal of the rejection of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome. Reconsideration and reexamination of the above Application is requested. Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the pending claims be allowed, and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes, after this Response, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.
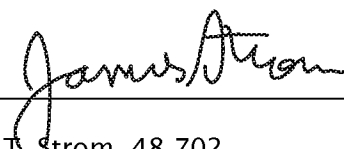
If this Amendment is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this Response, including an extension fee that is not covered by an enclosed check please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

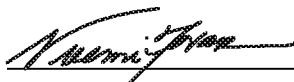Microsoft Corporation

Date: June 13, 2006   By:_____

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12/12